Claims

[c1]   A method for deterring duplicate printing of a first image

comprising:

receiving a request relating to the first image from a

client system;

providing data to the client system for forming at least a

portion of a sample image to a portion of a program

window in the client system that is visible to the user;

and

providing data to the client system for forming at least a

portion of the first image to a portion of the client sys-

tem program window that is not visible to the user.

[c2]   The method of claim 1 wherein:

the first image comprises a shipping label having a

postage indicia comprising a postage indicia code;

the sample image comprises a sample shipping label

having a sample postage indicia;

the client system comprises a web browser application;

the web browser application provides a visible portion

for displaying a first frame including the sample image;

the web browser application provides a non visible por-

tion for displaying a second frame including the first im-

age; and

the data provided to the client system program is provided by a first web server.

[c3]   The method of claim 2, wherein the sample shipping label includes a sample indicator.

[c4]   The method of claim 2, further comprising:

providing formatting instructions to the client system, wherein

the formatting instructions prevent user access to the second frame.

[c5]   The method of claim 1 further comprising:

providing formatting instructions to the client system, wherein

the formatting instructions prevent user access to a non-visible portion of the client system program window.

[c6]   The method of claim 3 wherein:

the sample image is an image file using an image file format selected from the group: GIF, BMP, TIFF, JPEG, PIX, PNG and PCX; and

the sample indicator comprises an indication to the user that the label is not valid for postage.

[c7]   The method of claim 3 wherein:

the sample indicator comprises an overlay for obscuring

the postage indicia of the sample label.

[c8]   The method of claim 2 wherein:
the sample image has the same dimensions as the first
image.

[c9]   The method of claim 1 wherein:
the sample image comprises the first image and a super-
imposed sample indicator.

[c10]   The method of claim 1 further comprising:
providing a first logic indicator in the visible portion of
the client system program window for receiving an indi-
cation of a sample print request; and
providing a second logic indicator in the visible portion
of the client system program window for receiving an in-
dication of a non-sample print request.

[c11]   The method of claim 10 further comprising:
receiving at least one indicator indicating whether the
non-sample print request was successful.

[c12]   The method of claim 11 further comprising:
determining whether the received indicators indicate that
a threshold of print failures has been reached; and
if the threshold of print failures has been reached, pro-
viding an indication that the print request is invalid.

[c13]   The method of claim 12 wherein:

the first logic indicator and second logic indicator are
presented in a second visible frame.

[c14]   The method of claim 2 wherein:

the first image includes image portions obtained from a
second web server; and

the sample image comprises image portions obtained
from a second web server.

[c15]   The method of claim 4 wherein

the formatting instructions prevent scrolling and resizing
of the client system program window.

[c16]   The method of claim 1 wherein:

the first image comprises a document of value;

the sample image comprises a sample document of
value;

the client system program comprises a web browser ap-
plication;

the web browser application provides a visible portion
for displaying a first frame including the sample image;

the web browser application provides a non visible por-
tion for displaying a second frame including the first im-
age; and

the data provided to the client system is provided by a
first web server.

[c17] The method of claim 16 wherein the document of value comprises a document selected from the group: ticket, receipt, article, report, financial instrument and contract.

[c18] The method of claim 16 wherein the sample image includes a sample indicator.

[c19] The method of claim 1 wherein:

the first image comprises a document of value;

the sample image comprises an image related to the document of value;

the client system comprises a web browser application;

the web browser application provides a visible portion for displaying a first frame including the sample image;

the web browser application provides a non visible portion for displaying a second frame including the first image; and

the data provided to the client system is provided by a first web server.

[c20] The method of claim 19 wherein the sample image is a portion of the document of value.

[c21] The method of claim 19 wherein the sample image is an article abstract.

[c22]   The method of claim 1 further comprising:

providing a mechanism to control printing of at least a portion of the client system program window that is not visible to the user.

[c23]   The method of claim 2 further comprising:

providing a mechanism to control printing of at least a portion of the client system program window that is not visible to the user.

[c24]   The method of claim 16 further comprising:

providing a mechanism to control printing of at least a portion of the client system program window that is not visible to the user.

[c25]   The method of claim 19 further comprising:

providing a mechanism to control printing of at least a portion of the client system program window that is not visible to the user.